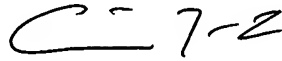


**Remarks**

This preliminary amendment is made to amend the title, specification and remove multiple dependencies from the claims. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of this amendment prior to calculation of the filing fee.

If a conference call would be useful in resolving issues arising from the filing of this communication, please contact the undersigned at the below-noted number.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'C-7-2'.

Casimir F. Laska  
Reg. No. 30,862

Docket No. NTD-9004-00

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